

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO AN INTERREGIONAL PROJECT

(INT/92/203)- Environment and Development-NGOs: Phase One

Date of approval by the AC: ^{1/}	22 January 1992	
Expected duration:	Six months	
Proposed executing agency:	UNDP/OPS	
Proposed UNDP contribution:	\$206400	Source of funds: SPR
Third-party cost sharing:	To be determined	
Total UNDP budget:	\$206400	

Project background

UNDP has actively promoted and supported contributions by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to processes and activities leading to the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) to be held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. In 1991, the NGO Division (now NGO Programme) implemented three projects to further NGOs' contributions to UNCED preparatory processes. They include: (1) (INT/90/709) National UNCED NGO Project under which 23 Field Offices were invited to award grants totalling \$10,000 per country to support NGOs' contributions to UNCED preparatory processes at the national level; (2) (INT/91/718) UNCED Assistance to NGOs under which UNDP has made grants totalling \$190,000 to support NGO participation in UNCED-related international meetings and NGO networking activities. (Organizations receiving assistance under this programme include the Centre for Environment and Development, the Centre for Our Common Future, Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI), ENDA-TM, Fundacion El Taller, International Facilitating Committee for UNCED (IFC), the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS), Women USA Fund and WorldWIDE Network.); and (3) (INT/91/719) Assistance to the UNCED Secretariat under which UNDP commissioned a paper by IIED on NGO perspectives of poverty, environment and development based on the UNDP-NGO consultation and case studies. A revised version is being circulated among governments and NGOs and will be part of UNDP's environmental guidelines for Field Offices and operating units.

The relatively small investments made under these projects have assured strong participation by developing-country NGOs in official UNCED preparatory processes; strengthened communications and networking on UNCED issues among NGOs and between NGOs and other sectors; contributed to increased government understanding of the contributions being made to environment and development by NGOs, community groups, citizens groups and women's organizations; supported processes and activities that will lead to increased cooperation among NGOs and between governments, multilaterals and NGOs in the post-UNCED period; increased significantly UNDP's understanding of, and contacts with, environmental NGOs, especially within developing countries; and enhanced UNDP's credibility and acceptance among environmental NGOs, making it easier to plan and carry out other UNDP projects that address environmental problems, including the GEF Small-Grants Programme and Asia-Pacific 2000.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) assure developing-country NGO participation in official UNCED preparatory processes and in UNCED itself; (b) communicate experiences and products from NGOs' participation in country-level preparations to the Rio conference; (c) promote recognition of women's roles in and views on environment and development; (d) promote recognition of the roles played by indigenous peoples in preserving the environment and the presentation of indigenous peoples' views on environment and development issues; (e) promote collaboration

^{1/} This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

between environment/development NGOs and other independent sectors, including the private sector; and (f) lay the groundwork for government collaboration with NGOs in carrying out national action plans; as well as Agenda 21 and relevant UNDP activities.

Project activities will include the establishment of: (1) **UNCED Developing-Country NGO Participation Fund** to assure participation by developing-country NGOs in the fourth UNCED Preparatory Committee meeting and in the Rio conference; (2) **UNCED NGO Leadership Grants** permitting 15 Field Offices that have participated most actively in the National UNCED NGO Project to select NGO leaders for travel grants to Rio; (3) **Articulation and Presentation of Women's Views on UNCED Issues** enabling participation by five developing-country women leaders in the fourth meeting of the Preparatory Committee; briefings and workshops by a women's center at Rio being organized by the Women's Environment and Development Organization jointly with FEMEA, a coalition of Brazilian women's organizations; (4) **"Hearings" on Women's Success Stories Relating to Environment and Development** convened by 10 UNDP Field Offices allowing community-based women who presented success stories at the Global Assembly for Women to communicate their experiences to government agencies, multilaterals, bilaterals and national NGOs and NGO networks; (5) **Indigenous Peoples Activities** giving support for an international colloquium on indigenous alternative practices of development being organized by the Intercultural Institute of Montreal in April-May, an activity focussing on indigenous people to be organized by UNDP at Rio; and(6) **Intersectoral Co-operation** enabling participation of eight developing-country NGOs in a meeting of high-level industry and philanthropy representatives to be held at at Pocantico Hills in March on the role of the private sector in the emerging global economic and environmental order; an intersectoral "summit" at Rio to plan intersectoral cooperation after UNCED.

Inputs

UNDP through the NGO Programme, and close consultation with the Environment and Natural Resources Management Group, will provide a subcontract to review requests from NGOs and approve, reject or modify these so that they meet the project's objectives; identify particular NGO networks, NGOs and NGO leaders to be involved in funded activities; and cooperate with the organizers of each funded activity and OPS to assure that UNDP's contributions are used effectively.

Financial data

Subcontract	\$
	206400
Total	<u>206400</u>
